



Center for Oceanic Research and Education

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Chief, Marine Mammal Division Office of Protected Resources National Marine Fisheries Service 1315 East-West Highway Silver Spring, MD 20910

To Whom It May Concern,

The Center for Oceanic Research and Education (CORE), is a private non-profit research organization located in Essex, MA. Our research focuses on the populations of endangered humpback and fin whales in the Western North Atlantic.

We strongly encourage the general moratorium on the harvest of beluga whales in Cook Inlet, Alaska, by Alaska Natives. We suggest a complete moratorium on the native harvest of the CI beluga population, until their numbers return to an optimum sustainable population, and then a closely monitored limited take might be an option.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lisa J. Foerster

Director

Center for Oceanic Research and Education

Cc: ALJ Docketing Center
Judge Parlen McKenna